

REMARKS

By this Amendment, Applicant amends the title to more appropriately reflect the present invention, amends the specification to correct informalities, and amends the drawings according to the Examiner's suggestions. Applicant also amends claims 4 and 14. Further, Applicant cancels claims 11-13 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter thereof. Claims 1-10 and 14 are currently pending.

In the Office Action, the Examiner allowed claims 1-11. The Examiner, however, objected to the title of the invention as not descriptive; objected to the specification and drawings as having informalities; objected to claim 11 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.75 as being a substantial duplicate of claim 1; and objected to claim 4 as having informalities. The Examiner also objected to claim 14 as dependent upon a rejected base claim, but indicated that it would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The Examiner rejected claims 12 and 13 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,052,145 to Macrae et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,205,485 to Kikinis.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for allowing claims 1-11 and pointing out the allowable subject matter in claim 14. Nevertheless, Applicant respectfully traverses the objections and the rejection.

Regarding Specification and Drawing Objections

Applicant has amended the title of the invention to more appropriately reflect the present invention. Applicant also has amended the specification to correct informalities on pages 10 and 13 according to the Examiner's suggestion. However, the Examiner also suggested "Servers" should be 'servers' on line 21 of pg.19." (Office Action, at 2) Applicant respectfully submits "servers" is currently used on line 21 of page 19.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the objections to the specification.

Applicant has also amended the drawings to correct informalities according to the Examiner's suggestion. Applicant thanks the Examiner for suggesting the corrections to the informalities and respectfully requests withdrawal of the objections to the drawings.

Regarding Claim Objections

Applicant has amended claim 4 to correct informalities according to the Examiner's suggestion. Applicant thanks the Examiner for suggesting the corrections to the informalities and respectfully requests withdrawal of the objection to claim 4. Since Applicant has canceled claim 11, the objection to claim 11 is therefore moot.

Applicant also has rewritten claim 14 to include all of the limitations of claims 12 and 13 before canceling claims 12 and 13. Therefore, Applicant also respectfully requests withdrawal of the objection to claim 14.

Regarding the Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner's rejection of claims 12 and 13 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). In order to expedite prosecution of this case, however, Applicant cancels claims 12 and 13. The rejection of claims 12 and 13 is therefore moot.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests entry of this Amendment and a timely issuance of a Notice of Allowance.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: September 17, 2004

By: 
Wenye Tan
Reg. No. 55,662

Attachments: Replacement drawing sheets of Fig. 1 and Fig. 14A